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UNCLAS AMMAN 001696

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TFIZ01: AMMAN SITREP 1 (3/20 1130 LOCAL )

REF: AMMAN 1525

¶1. (SBU) As of 0545 local time (0345 GMT) Embassy Amman stood up its Crisis Liaison Unit (CLU) which will serve as the Embassy's central point of contact/clearinghouse for DoS inquiries on all crisis-related issues. At 0600 local time we notified the OpsCenter via phone that we are operational. Contact numbers for the CLU are as follows:

STU-III: 962-6-592-7740

Unclassified lines: 962-6-592-0101, ext. 2366 or ext. 2599

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Unclassified FAX: 962-6-592-0159

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E-Mail: On the Classified system the address that appears in the Global Address List is Amman-MSX-Crisis Liaison Unit." On the Unclassified system the CLU's address in the Global Address List is "Amman Crisis Liaison Unit."

¶2. (SBU) Embassy has gone to standfast. Only a skeleton staff is at the Embassy and non-emergency American staff have been instructed to remain in their homes. The Embassy remains open for emergency American Citizen Services, but has suspended visa and other routine public services for March 20, 2003. Current plans are to remain at standfast for 48 hours after which we will assess appropriate staffing levels based on the local security environment.

GNEHM